

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MEREDITH SMITH

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2021

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and pay tribute to Meredith Isaac Smith, 76, who passed on Friday, November 26, 2021.

He was born on July 28, 1942, in Cleveland, son of Osceola Smith and Consuela Evans. Meredith was a 1960 graduate of Sollers Point Junior/Senior High School in Maryland and a 1964 alum of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, a historically black university, where he earned a bachelor's degree in kinesiology.

Upon graduating, Meredith would return to academia, teaching physical education at Southern High School for 40 years. He would become the boys' basketball coach, holding the position for 21 years and finishing with a 398–144 record. Although he never personally played any sport in both high school and college, Meredith's passion for coaching would lead him to win a Maryland Scholastic Association A Conference title in 1990 and three Maryland Public Secondary Athletic Association state titles in 1993, 1994, and 1996. His success would lead him back to his alma mater, the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, in 2004, serving as an assistant coach for three seasons before becoming the program's interim head coach during the 2007–2008 season.

While helping his athletes achieve athletic greatness, Meredith's compassion also included being a mentor to the youth. When he knew that coaching high school basketball was his calling, Coach Meredith gave his all to his athletes, treating them like his own children. While a coach at Southern, Meredith demanded academic excellence from his athletes and wanted his students to continue their education past high school. Several of his remarkable players were able to continue their careers in college, which was one of his major priorities.

Meredith is survived by his children Ali Smith, Darryl Smith, Atman Smith, Lydia Jackson, and Lisa Robinson; two brothers, James Smith, and Carlton Smith; two sisters, Mary Livingston, and Alexis Smith; 12 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

IN RECOGNITION OF COMMANDER DON LIND

HON. BLAKE D. MOORE

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2021

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Mr. Don Lind of Utah; a proud Naval Aviator, esteemed scientist, and veteran astronaut who has contributed significantly to our nation's exploration of space.

After serving a church mission to the Northeastern United States and graduating from the University of Utah, Mr. Lind went on to pursue a Ph.D. in High-Energy Nuclear Physics from the University of California, Berkeley in 1964. During this time, he held the rank of Commander in the Naval Reserve as an aviator and logged more than 4,500 flight hours.

Don began working at NASA in 1964 during a time of intense competition when America's dominance in space was still in question. He quickly set himself apart and was selected into NASA Astronaut Group 5 just two years later. Commander Lind's proficiency in developing tools for use on the lunar surface, studying the properties of low-energy particles in interplanetary space, and developing payloads for early space missions made him an invaluable member of the group.

In 1985, Commander Lind became the final member of the "Original Nineteen" to go to space when he served as Mission Specialist 1 on STS–51–B. This important mission was instrumental in capturing images of the Earth's aurora and deploying the Northern Utah Satellite, which was designed to measure antenna patterns of L-band radars. The program faced immense adversity, yet Don's determination ensured its success.

Following his time with NASA, Commander Lind returned to his home state of Utah and moved to Cache Valley, where he inspired countless students as a professor at Utah State University.

Back home, Don continues to serve others by magnifying church callings and loving his seven children and many grandchildren. Today, Commander Lind, now 91, resides in Smithfield, Utah and remains an icon of Utah's many contributions to space exploration.

I join with Americans across our nation in thanking Commander Lind for his dedication to our community, to our greatest ideals, and to the state of Utah. The sacrifices of men and women like Don Lind have buoyed our collective conscience, encouraged our nation through times of great uncertainty, and lifted our eyes and minds to the endless possibilities that surround us.

THANKING THE HOUSE OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I join with my fellow committee chairs in thanking the House Office of the Legislative Counsel for their incredible work during the First Session of the 117th Congress. They have produced landmark legislation amid some of the most challenging working conditions Congress has ever known.

In just the First Session of the 117th Congress, attorneys within the House Office of the Legislative Counsel have provided steadfast

guidance on not just the "American Rescue Plan Act," the "For the People Act," the "Build Back Better Act," or the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022," but also more than 7,000 measures introduced in the House.

My fellow committee chairs and I have joined in a letter thanking the office, led by Wade Ballou, which I include in the RECORD along with a roster of the entire HOLC staff.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, December 16, 2021.

E. WADE BALLOU, JR.,
House Legislative Counsel, Office of the Legislative Counsel, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. BALLOU: The committee chairs of the House of Representatives would like to express our profound thanks to you and the entire staff of the House Office of the Legislative Counsel (HOLC) for your extraordinary work during the First Session of the 117th Congress.

Since its authorization more than a century ago, HOLC has offered professional, nonpartisan, and confidential advice on drafting legislation to all Members and committees of the House. Few Congresses in that time have been as legislatively active and demanding as the 117th. Amid a pandemic, your talented and patriotic non-partisan staff has helped our committees and all Member offices draft more than 7,000 pieces of legislation. The body of work produced by HOLC includes some of the most broadly significant and transformational measures our Nation has ever seen, which include the "American Rescue Plan Act," the "For the People Act," the "Build Back Better Act," and the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022," as well as additional measures that were significant priorities for each of our committees.

What follows are committee-specific statements of appreciation of your counsels' expert work, which together with the names of the HOLC attorneys and staff whose work we acknowledge here, will be included in the Congressional Record:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

The Committee on Agriculture would like to thank the non-partisan staff at the House Office of the Legislative Counsel for their extraordinary work supporting our committee's legislative priorities. We are grateful for the invaluable legal and legislative drafting expertise of HOLC's agriculture and nutrition attorneys: Michelle Vanek, Kathryn Swiss, James Grossman, Kakuti Lin, and Jean Harmann. Their expertise, professionalism, and tireless commitment to public service has been key to our committee's work, including the agriculture components of the American Rescue Plan Act and the Build Back Better Act, as well as the 10 bipartisan measures that this committee favorably reported or successfully advanced to the House floor this session of Congress. These efforts could not have been accomplished without HOLC and its dedicated non-partisan staff.

DAVID SCOTT,
Chairman, Committee on Agriculture.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

On behalf of the Committee on Appropriations, I would like to recognize and express our deep appreciation for the House Office of

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.